



H.Res. 1279 – Recognizing the Special Olympics' 40th anniversary

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1279 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Lee Terry (R-NE) on June 17, 2008. The resolution was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1279 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on July 30, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 1279 resolves that the House of Representatives congratulates the Special Olympics on its 40th anniversary for the contributions and opportunities it provides to all its participants.

BACKGROUND

The first Special Olympics Summer Games were held in Chicago in 1968. The Special Olympics are held every four years. The Special Olympics involves 2.5 million people with intellectual disabilities in more than 180 countries. The events are open to all intellectually disabled individuals over the age of 8, regardless of degree of disability. Over 700,000 volunteers and 500,000 coaches worldwide contribute to the games.

In July 2010, Lincoln and Omaha, Nebraska will host the Special Olympics. The symbol of the Special Olympics is the Flame of Hope, which is lit in a ceremony in Athens, Greece. At Special Olympics award ceremonies, medals are presented for not only first, second, and third place, but also fourth to last place contestants receive ribbons.

STAFF CONTACT

For questions or further information contact Adam Hepburn at 6-2302.